



SENTINEL



Volume 41, No. 3

Published in the interest of the Fort McPherson and Fort Gillem community.

February 4, 2011

Special issue: BRAC from A to Z



Photo by Kevin Stabinsky

Announcement — On May 13, 2005, then-U.S. Army Garrison commander Col. Angela Manos announced the scheduled closure of Fort McPherson and Fort Gillem under the BRAC Act during a press conference held at the Vehicle Registration Center at Fort McPherson's Main Gate. Now, six years later, Fort McPherson and Fort Gillem remain on track to close their gates in September. As closure draws nearer, members of the community may still have some lingering questions and concerns of what will happen on the installations in the remaining months. In this issue of the *Sentinel*, readers will find information that attempts to address a variety of such BRAC-related issues.

Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) — The Fort Gillem AAFES main store, including the barbershop, beauty shop and food and concession stores, are scheduled to close July 2. The Fort Gillem shoppette, gas station and Burger King are scheduled to close July 30.

The Fort McPherson gas station is scheduled to close July 29. The food vendors at the Fort McPherson Mini Mall will close May 27. The Fort McPherson AAFES Mini Mall, including the barbershop, concession mall, Military Clothing Supply Store are scheduled to close July 30.

Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC)—The BRAC Act of 1990, as amended by the fiscal year 2005 Defense Authorization Act, mandated the closure of Fort McPherson and Fort Gillem as well as the establishment of a military enclave at Fort Gillem in September 2011.

BRAC 2005 is the Army's largest organizational transformation since World War II and positions Army assets to better support Soldiers, Army Families and Army Civilian employees.

The transformation will provide many opportunities for the Army, including facilitating business functions with other military services, reducing the cost of installation ownership, providing career enhancement opportunities for Family members and employees, and rebalancing the Army to meet strategic goals.

Chapel services — Catholic worship services will continue at the Cantonment Chapel until June 5, the chapel will be decommissioned June 7. Protestant worship services at the Post Chapel will also end June 5; the chapel will be decommissioned June 5. All chapel services will recommence at the Fort McPherson Post Theater June 12. Worship services will end July 31.

Child, Youth and School Services (CYSS) — There will be no summer camp offered this year through CYSS. The Youth Activities Center (Bldg. 400) will close at the conclusion of this year's pre-kindergarten class May 30.

The Child Development Center (CDC) at Bldg. 514 will close July 1. Hourly care will be available until the center is closed.

Families needing local child care once the center closes, can contact the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies by calling 1-800-424-2246 or visiting www.naccrra.org/military/assistance.php. Families can also visit www.militaryonesource for more information on military, accredited childcare facilities. Families needing childcare services at Fort Bragg, N.C., Shaw Air Force Base, S.C., or Rock Island Arsenal, Ill., can visit www.mcphersonfmwr.com and click on the "BRAC Moving Forward" section.

For more information, call Harriett Holley, CDC director, at 464-2586.

Final leg of BRAC begins

When the BRAC announcement was made May 13, 2005, 2011 seemed an eternity away. After years of looking forward, the New Year has ushered in the start of the final leg of our journey to closure.

This special issue of the *Sentinel* is designed to update you on the status of the closure process and the plan for the road ahead. While most of the dates provided are set in stone, some may shift based on a variety of factors.

Throughout the closure process, the garrison will stand fast in its commitment to sustain mission support, readiness and customer service while transitioning to close Fort McPherson and reduce Fort Gillem to an enclave by Sept. 15 based on

Commander's Message

Col. Deborah Grays

Garrison Commander
Fort McPherson and Fort Gillem



BRAC 2005 requirements.

We will not forget our military community members — we will continue to take care of our people by providing services equal with our abilities, keeping their needs in mind throughout the transition.

While changes may come fast and furious, I vow to keep you informed through the *Sentinel*, town hall meetings, the website and portal — strategic communications remain vital.

Now is the time for laser focus and commitment. The task ahead will be challenging, however, I'm confident we will achieve success and close this installation with dignity and excellence, and embrace the historic memory.

Civilian Personnel Advisory Center (CPAC) — CPAC support for Civilian employees will end Aug. 1.

Caretaker force — There will be a small caretaker force remaining after closure to manage the property at Fort McPherson and Fort Gillem until it is transferred out of Army control.

Caretaker personnel will provide maintenance, repair and protection to the installations, and will ensure any remaining environmental restoration work is completed.

Security and fire services will be available, as will police protection and law enforcement services.



Garrison Commander

Col. Deborah Broughton Grays

**Public Affairs Officer and
Command Information Officer**
Debi Sage

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Visit the Sentinel on the
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The submission deadline is the Friday before the intended issue is published. Submissions must include all pertinent information and a point of contact name and telephone number. The SENTINEL staff reserves the right to edit or decline submissions. Submissions can be sent by mail to the Public Affairs Office, by fax to 404-464-3659 or by e-mail to

mcpherson_sentinel@conus.army.mil.

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Garrison HotLine

Persons who have a problem or concern about a garrison service or organization can submit a comment through the Interactive Customer Evaluation (ICE) system at http://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=site&site_id=448. You may also use the yellow or blue customer comment cards found at boxes hanging in facilities throughout Fort McPherson and Fort Gillem. Look for the blue or yellow cards by a hanging box designed for de-positing the completed cards. For faster service, customers can call the Garrison HotLine at 404-469-5959. Telephone calls will be answered within 48 hours.

Commissary — The Fort Gillem Commissary is scheduled to close July 1 and the Fort McPherson Commissary is scheduled to close Aug. 1. After closure, shoppers can use the commissaries at Fort Benning, Fort Gordon or Warner Robins Air Force Base to meet their commissary needs. The commissaries on Fort McPherson and Fort Gillem will have sales of inventory up until closure. Shoppers can visit www.commissaries.com and click on either “Fort McPherson” or “Fort Gillem” to get information on when these sales will be held.

Directorate of Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation (DFMWR) — There will be no Soldier Show celebration scheduled for this year, and there will be no intramural sport leagues scheduled after the end of the current bowling league due to Soldier departures. Strike Zone operating hours will change March 31 from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. Saturday.

The sections and activities of DFMWR will close on the corresponding dates:

- May 2 — Fort McPherson Post Library
- May 2 — Strike Zone salad bar and hot entrée (except grill operations)
- May 27 — Free Friday night movies at Fort McPherson Post Theater
- May 30 — Golf Course (driving range remains open until July 15)
- May 30 — Youth Services Center (Georgia pre-k)
- June 1 — Leisure Activities and “Hang Ups” Frame Shop
- June 1 — Auto Care Center/Hobby Shop
- June 17 — Strike Zone (bowling) (except grill operations)
- July 1 — Child Development Center
- July 15 — The Commons at Fort McPherson, including driving range and

Divots

- July 17 — Strike Zone grill operations
- Aug. 1 — Army Community Services (ACS)
- Aug. 29 — Fort McPherson Post Theater

Defense Finance Accounting Service (DFAS) — Local support for DFAS will end Aug. 5. Soldiers and Civilian employees needing DFAS support after Aug. 5 can contact DFAS at www.dfas.mil.

Enclave — BRAC law states that a contiguous enclave be established for the Georgia Army National Guard, the remainder of the 81st Regional Readiness Command units (except their equipment concentration site, which will move to Fort Benning) and the Criminal Investigation Division (CID) Forensics Laboratory. The enclave will consist of approximately 252 acres of property and 21 buildings (564,346 square feet).

There will be six active component, 21 Army Reserve and Navy Reserve and two Georgia Army National Guard (GAARNG) units supported by the enclave. That amounts to 934 military and 466 Civilian employee personnel. To accommodate these units, approximately \$28.7 million in construction and renovation projects have been undertaken. Bldg. 608 is being converted to a readiness center for the GAARNG and is scheduled for completion in August. The network switch building that will support the communication and computer interfaces is complete and equipment is being installed.

The Force Protection Project, which includes fencing and a new access control point, is nearing completion. The expansion of Bldg. 839 to house the Navy’s Reserve Intelligence Area 14 — which is relocating from the closing Naval Air Station Atlanta — is complete. The 81st Regional Support Command is working on renovations of Bldgs. 718, 815 and 900 to house its supported units moving from excess property. Fort Gordon is scheduled to take official control of the enclave and support its tenants Sept. 15.

Education — U.S. Army Garrison education services will end May 13. Additionally, Army Career and Alumni Program training will end May 30 and college classes will end June 1.

Environmental update — Fort McPherson and Fort Gillem continue tracking to ensure environmental compliance for the transition and closure. The environmental condition of the property (ECP) Phase I for both installations was completed in January 2007. The ECP is an assessment or characterization process of the environmental condition of the entire facility and property.

Shortly after completing the ECPs, site investigation reports (SI) were issued. The SI for Fort Gillem was completed in April 2009. The SI report for Fort McPherson is in draft final format and is awaiting Georgia’s Environmental Protection Division’s final review.

Regarding the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA), an environ-



Courtesy photo

Funeral services — The Fort McPherson Funeral Honors Team will continue to conduct funeral services through March 31, unless the mission dictates providing further assistance.

Funeral services will be assumed by the Georgia Army National Guard, with the region currently covered by the Fort McPherson team to be split between Fort Gordon, Fort Benning and Fort Stewart.

Individuals needing funeral honors following March 31 can still contact the Fort McPherson Casualty Office at 464-2111 or can contact the Casualty Assistance Office at the installation closest to them.



Courtesy photo

Gillem gates — The Fort Gillem gates for the enclave currently under construction by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District, are scheduled for completion March 12 and are scheduled to be operational by September.

Gymnasiums — The Fort McPherson Gym (Bldg. 422) will close June 1. Following its closure, some weightlifting equipment will be moved to the Fort McPherson Fitness Center (Bldg. 421). The Fitness Center, including the indoor swimming pool and racquetball courts, will close Aug. 1. The Neal Fitness Center on Fort Gillem will close July 15.

Housing — Servicemembers and Civilian employees (other than temporary and contractor employees) may be eligible for the Homeowners Assistance Program (HAP). Congress created HAP to financially compensate eligible military and Civilian federal employee homeowners when the real estate market is directly affected by closure or reduction-in-scope of operations due to BRAC.

When not able to sell a home within 120 days, and approved by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Headquarters, applicants are eligible to receive the greater of 75 percent of the purchase price or the mortgage payoff. HAP will not reimburse or pay off second mortgages, including equity lines of credit, unless they were obtained when the home was purchased or funds were used to improve the home. The maximum home purchase price divided by the prior fair market value is \$729,750. Applicants must also find a buyer for the government to sell the home to.

In some cases, HAP will provide assistance after a foreclosure. Benefits may include direct cost of judicial foreclosure, expenses and enforceable liabilities according to the terms of the promissory note. In the event of a private sale, servicemembers may be reimbursed 90 percent of the purchase price minus the sale price and closing costs (Civilian employees receive reimbursement of closing costs as part of relocation).

Additionally:

- Applicants must have been assigned to the announced organization or installation prior to the announcement date.
- Applicants must have purchased the home prior to May 13, 2005.
- The individual home value must have declined at least 10 percent.
- The home must be sold between July 1, 2006, and Sept. 30, 2012.
- Applicants must relocate at least 50 miles from their primary residence because of a transfer, employment or retirement from the BRAC-impacted organization because their position is relocated or eliminated.
- The new residence must be within 50 miles of new duty station
- BRAC-impacted Civilian employees may voluntarily retire if their position is relocated or eliminated.
- BRAC-impacted military retirees must be under mandatory retirement orders to be eligible.

For more information, or to download a HAP application packet, visit <http://hap.usace.army.mil/>

Civilian employees are also eligible for the DoD National Relocation Program (DNRP), a program designed to assist eligible and authorized DoD Civilian employees to relocate from one duty station to another. Its primary benefit, known as "guaranteed home sale," offers an optional alternative to the permanent change of station reimbursement process for those authorized employees who must sell their primary residences.

Additionally:

- Applicants must be ready to sell their home when entering into DNRP.
- Applicants' homes must be listed while using DNRP.
- Homes must be listed for at least 60 consecutive days in conjunction with the DNRP before applicants can accept a guaranteed home sale buyout offer.

For more information, call the DNRP staff at 1-800-344-2501.



ID cards — The Military Personnel Division on Fort McPherson (Bldg. 181) will stop issuing ID cards Aug. 1. Alternate ID card sites for individuals needing an ID card are available at the following locations after the MPD's closure:

- 335th Signal Command — 2323 Dauphine St., East Point; Wednesdays from 1 until 3 p.m., Fridays by appointment only; 404-559-3785.
- Georgian Army National Guard — 5019 Ga. Hwy. 42, Ellenwood; Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 8:30 until 11 a.m. and 1:30 until 3 p.m., Wednesdays from 8:30 until 11 a.m. by appointment only; 678-569-5368.
- Personnel Support Activity — Naval Air Station, Bldg. 3, Marietta; Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.; 678-655-6347.
- Marine Aircraft Group 42 — 1000 Halsey Ave., Hanger 1, Marietta; Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.; 678-655-6281.
- Dobbins Air Force Base — 1430 1st Street, Bldg. 838, Marietta; Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m.; 678-655-3835.
- Naval Operation Support — 4051 Amnicola Highway, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Wednesdays from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. by appointment only; 423-698-8957.

Inactivation ceremonies — Installation Management Command-Southeast will hold a color-casing ceremony April 29 at 10 a.m. on Hedekin Field. The U.S. Army Garrison will hold a garrison inactivation ceremony May 6 at 10 a.m., also on Hedekin Field.

Judge Advocate General, U.S. Army Garrison (USAG JAG) —

- Client services will be reduced to a case-by-case basis July 1.
- Civilian criminal cases will continue to be prosecuted in federal magistrate court by the U.S. Department of Justice until closure.
- Pending military cases will be staffed through appropriate channels to Soldiers' gaining installations and/or departing tenant units.



Photo by Kevin Stabinsky

Keeping up morale — Soldiers dealing with too much stress who have a primary care doctor at the Lawrence Joel Army Troop Medical Clinic (LJTMC) can call 464-4764 to schedule an appointment at the LJTMC Behavioral Science Service Center on Fort McPherson.

Civilian employees, Family members and retirees can receive help dealing with stress through the Employee Assistant Program (EAP) offered at the Fort McPherson Wellness Center. The EAP offers screenings, assessments, short-term counseling, confidential referrals and assistance for problems that may affect job performance or conduct on the job. The EAP occasionally offers free classes on stress management. For more information, call 464-2462.

Lawrence Joel Army Troop Medical Clinic (LJTMC), Lawrence Joel Troop Dental Clinic (LJTDC) and veterinary services — The LJTMC will discontinue pharmacy services for retirees and Family members who are not enrolled to the clinic March 31.

All other LJTMC services for active duty military servicemembers and Family members enrolled to the clinic will end July 15. LJTDC and veterinary services also will end July 15.

Mass transit — The Mass Transit Benefit (MTB) program will continue to run through July. Van pool vouchers and Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) passes will not decrease in value. Pickups for vouchers will continue to be held.

Individuals withdrawing from the program need to fill out a withdrawal form supplied by Carolyn Stephens, MTB manager, at her office in the U.S. Army Garrison Resource Management Office in Bldg. 65 at Fort McPherson. The form must be completed before re-enrolling at the employee's new location, or it will be rejected due to double enrollment. To make an appointment, call 464-4705.

The Sentinel is recyclable.

Memories abundant for military educator

Kevin Stabinsky
Sentinel assistant editor

Marilyn Johnson, an education technician at the Fort McPherson Child Development Center (CDC), stands silent as she watches over a group of young children in her preschool classroom as they take their afternoon nap. Johnson has been watching over children since she was a teenager, but today, she not only watches the world's future grow, but her own past come to a close.

"It's like a second home," she says of the CDC, where she began working April 30, 1973, when she was 18. "I'd hate to see it close down. I wanted to stay until I retired."

The brick structure, which sits on a hill off of Wetzel Drive on Fort McPherson, has always served as the CDC, and now serves as a haven for Johnson's memories before BRAC.

Unlike the legendary castle on the hill that defeats the invading horde in myths, fairy tales and other stories, there will be no such happy ending here. Due to government legislation

passed in 2005, Fort McPherson and all its activities will be closing by Sept. 15.

While the ending may not be what Johnson would like to have seen, she said she takes comfort in memories that span 38 years.

"I've had kids I've watched here drop their kids off," she said. "I taught the first pre-kindergarten program here, coordinated the first Month of the Military Child and saw the daycare renovated twice."

In her own life, she has grown from a teen just helping to serve the military (following the footsteps of her mother, Mattie Barnes, who worked at the post bowling alley) to a grandmother.

Her oldest daughter, Angela, now 39, was born at Fort McPherson, further stretching her roots to the installation.

The day those roots were planted were very different than today's environment — it was a time before the U.S. Army Reserve Command was headquartered here, before Jacob's Park was opened and before the Metropolitan Atlanta

See MEMORIES on page 10

With BRAC approaching, the Sentinel asked members of the community: How do you feel about closure and what is your biggest concern?

Man on the street:



"My biggest concern is moving. How do you sell the house? Where do you live up there (Fort Bragg, N.C.)?"

- David White
help desk administrator
U.S. Army Forces Command (FORSCOM)



"I hate that it is closing and my biggest concern is finding another job."

- Winona Smith
lead cook
Fort McPherson Strike Zone



"I think historically it is a real shame to see such a historical base closed. It will be a sad day for history the day the base closes."

- Sergeant Maj. Lana Labay
Army Reserve liason
FORSCOM

Nonappropriated fund (NAF) employees — NAF employees are not eligible to enroll in the Priority Placement Program (PPP). However, they can complete a referral form requesting consideration to other posts. Although no NAF employee has done so on Fort McPherson or Fort Gillem, opportunities remain available for placement opportunities through partnerships with BRAC installations. For more information, see the PPP entry.



•First U.S. Army (First Army): First Army will move approximately 300 military and civilian personnel to Rock Island Arsenal, Ill.

A liaison officer and a small contingent of Soldiers are currently at Rock Island, with the rest of the force scheduled to arrive between May and mid-June.

Construction and renovation of the new First Army headquarters building is nearly complete.

Passports — Passport services will end July 15. Customers needing assistance after July 15 can visit www.travel.state.gov.

Priority Placement Program (PPP) — The Priority Placement Program (PPP) provides employees with the maximum opportunity for placement assistance in other DoD positions and locations. It was established and is maintained to minimize the adverse effects on employees due to draw downs, base closures, consolidations, contracting out and classification decisions.

Since its inception in 1965, PPP has received the personal support and sanction of every secretary of defense.

Through its Automated Stopper and Referral System (ASARS), the skills of displaced employees are matched with vacant positions at other DoD activities in the authorized areas where the employees are willing to work.

If the new job involves a move to another location, the costs of moving the employee and his or her household are borne by the government based on joint travel regulations. If the new job is at a lower grade level, the employee's grade or pay is saved to the maximum extent permitted.

Employees are referred using a numeric priority (1 through 3). The priority assigned is based on the severity of the employee's proposed personnel action. Priority 1 employees must be considered for placement before priority 2 and 3 employees. Additionally, the priority assigned determines which recruitment actions are "stopped" when a match occurs.

In order to be registered, the employee must be "sufficiently well qualified" — able to satisfactorily perform the duties of the position with orientation only — and the registrant's performance and conduct must not be in question. The "sufficiently well qualified" determination is initially made by the registering personnel office and confirmed between the registering and gaining activities before offers are confirmed.

Questions — Questions related to BRAC may be asked, and are addressed, in a number of forums. These include:

•The BRAC Rumor Control Hotline at 464-0965 or the USAG hotline at 404-469-5959. Callers should leave contact information (phone number and e-mail address) so questions can be answered in a timely manner.

•Question can be sent by e-mail to mcphusagtown-hallquestions@conus.army.mil. Answers to these questions will be posted both on the MacGil portal, <https://macgil.forscom.army.mil/Pages/Default.aspx>, and the Fort McPherson website, www.mcperson.army.mil/brac/default.htm (click BRAC, then Town Hall).

•Quarterly BRAC town hall meetings hosted by the garrison commander. The meetings are open to all interested members of the community. A question-and-answer period is included in each meeting to address any questions audience member may have.



Outgoing commands — The BRAC Act requires the relocation of several major units currently assigned to Fort McPherson and Fort Gillem. These major units will complete their departures in late summer due to construction schedules at their gaining installations. These major departing units include:

•Installation Management Command - Southeast (IMCOM-SE): IMCOM-SE will move to Fort Eustis, Va.

IMCOM-SE employees desiring to relocate have been afforded employment opportunities at either Fort Eustis or IMCOM headquarters in San Antonio. An existing building at Fort Eustis is being renovated to receive IMCOM personnel.

•U.S. Army Forces Command (FORSCOM): FORSCOM plans to move more than 1,500 personnel to Fort Bragg, N.C., in several stages.

An advanced echelon (ADVON) began the move in October 2010. The remaining FORSCOM personnel will move in monthly serials from March through August.

A small trail party is scheduled to remain at Fort McPherson until early September to return assigned buildings to the garrison.

•U.S. Army Reserve Command (USARC): USARC is also relocating to Fort Bragg, where it will be collocated with FORSCOM in a new headquarters facility.

Nearly 1,400 USARC personnel will relocate to Fort Bragg following roughly the same planned movement strategy and timeline as that used by FORSCOM (for example, ADVON, monthly serials and a trail party).

Current USARC movement planning reflects its movement from Fort McPherson to be complete by mid-August.

•Third Army/US Army Central Command (Third Army): Third Army will move approximately 1,000 military and 100 Civilian positions — to Shaw Air Force Base, S.C.

An advanced party began the move in July 2010. Remaining Third Army personnel will relocate in scheduled movements between April and July. A small trail party will complete the move in September.

Third Army will move into a new headquarters facility at Shaw Air Force Base.

Retirees —

• The U.S. Army Garrison (USAG) Retirement Services Office (RSO) will hold pre-retirement briefings at the Fort McPherson Post Theater April 15 and July 15 from 8 a.m. until noon.

• The USAG Retiree Council will meet in the USAG conference room at Bldg. 65 on Fort McPherson March 4 and July 1 from 12:30 until 1:30 p.m.

• The Fort McPherson and Fort Gillem Annual Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) will be held May 14 at Fort McPherson Post Theater from 8 a.m. until 1:30 pm.

RAD activities will be modified to include only representatives from TRI-CARE, and services will be provided by the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System and the USAG Vehicle Registration Office.

For more information, call Ethel Robinson, retirement services officer for the USAG RSO, at 464-2879 or 464-3219.

Sentinel — The last paper version of the Sentinel newspaper will be published June 24. Afterward, the Sentinel will transition to an electronic, web-based-only format.



Photo by Kevin Stabinsky

Town hall meetings — The U.S. Army Garrison command team will host town hall meetings to address BRAC issues and schedules at the Fort McPherson Post Theater Feb. 10 and May 12 at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Subsequent meetings will be announced.

Unemployment — Those affected by BRAC and looking to collect unemployment must file unemployment claims with one of the 11 Georgia Department of Labor (GDL) offices in the metro-Atlanta area. Claims cannot be filled until the day after one's final day of employment. Because unemployment is determined by one's previous pay, applicants should bring their last full pay stub with them to the office when applying. For more information, go to the GDL website at www.dol.state.ga.us.

Updates — Starting Feb. 11, the Sentinel will feature a weekly "Update on BRAC" section. This section will inform readers of BRAC-related milestones or other significant events that happened within the week. The section will also feature community information related to BRAC and provide answers to questions readers may have about closure.

Vehicle and weapon registration — Vehicle and weapon registration at Fort Gillem will end March 15. Services for both installations will be consolidated at Fort McPherson until Aug. 1.

V.I.P. numbers and websites —
BRAC staff:

• BRAC Chief — 464-2269

• Base transition coordinator, Fort McPherson — 464-3091

• Base transition coordinator, Fort Gillem — 404-469-3567

• Environmental coordinator — 404-469-3559

• BRAC Rumor Hotline — 464-0965

• BRAC website — www.mcperson.army.mil/brac/default.htm

Additional contacts:

• Army & Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) Fort McPherson and Fort Gillem AAFES general manager — 404-469-5483 or 404-469-5484.

• Fort McPherson and Fort Gillem Chaplain Office administrative assistant — 464-2004

• U.S. Army Garrison (USAG) Directorate of Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation (DFMWR) assistant director — 464-2348

• Fort McPherson and Fort Gillem commissary manager — 404-469-5405

• Sentinel — editor, 464-2028; assistant editor, 464-2884

• USAG Housing Office housing specialist — 464-4150

• USAG Human Resource Office — 464-3138

• USAG Retirement Services Office retirement services officer — 464-2879 or 464-3219

• USAG Staff Judge Advocate deputy staff judge advocate — 464-4270

What's going to happen to all of the equipment? — There are two types of personal property: accountable (military equipment, medical equipment and electronic equipment are some examples) and non-accountable (predominantly furniture items — tables, chairs, desks, etc). When units depart the installation, all accountable items must be removed from the facility.

Non-accountable items are inventoried and left in place unless the unit has a continued need for them. In that case, the unit must inventory the property separately and request garrison's permission to remove it from its current facility. This is coordinated with the property book officer at the gaining installation.

X-rays and mammograms — Patients of the Lawrence Joel Army Troop Medical Clinic who have had an X-ray or a mammogram in the past five years are encouraged to pick up their X-ray or mammogram film at the clinic by July 15.

Patients can pick up their film at the clinic radiology department Monday through Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Film not picked up will be sent to the Dwight David Eisenhower Army Medical Center (DDEAMC), Fort Gordon, after July 15.

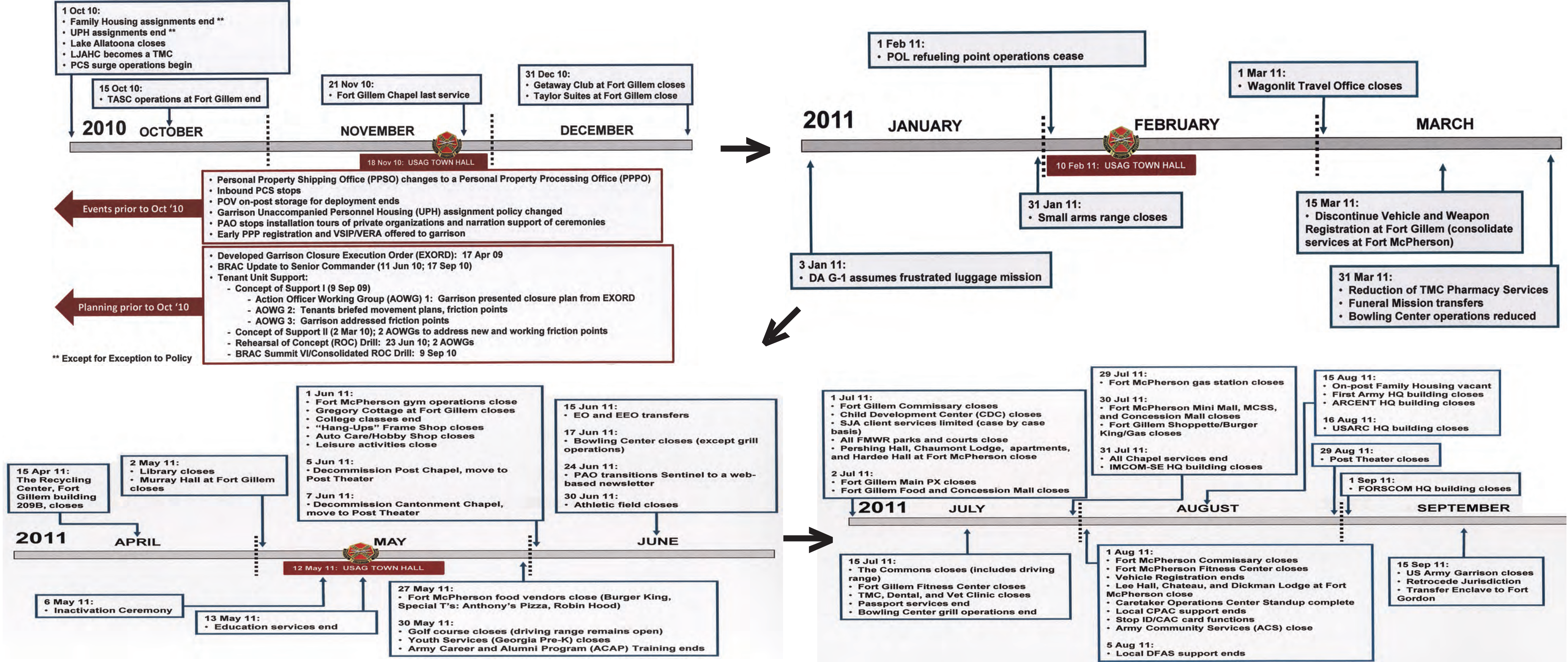
To receive films from DDEAMC, patients must call 706-786-2330 or report to the DDEAMC Radiology Department in person and fill out a DD Form 2870 (Authorization for Disclosure of Medical or Dental Information).

Edward Jones
72047
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GTSMJS Realty
73285
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**Submit your Community Briefs and
Leisure Activities requests to
mcperson_sentinel@conus.army.mil**

Fort McPherson, Fort Gillem BRAC closure matrix



Yesterday to today — Things have changed over the years, both in terms of construction and destruction on Fort McPherson and Fort Gillem. Below are some highlights of these changes.



Courtesy photo

An ariel view of part of Fort McPherson shows how things have changed on the post. While some structures remain the same, many buildings have been removed and replaced as the post modernized throughout the years. Most noticeable is the lot containing 20 smaller buildings in the photos' center, buildings which have been replaced by the U.S. Army Forces Command Headquarters (Bldg. 200).



Photo by Pvt. Robert Jennings

Above: In 1953, the main gate to Fort McPherson was the Gordon Gate, located off Lee Street and west of the current Lee Street Gate, near the Chapel Center and Bldg. 46. Today, the gate is closed and the road is paved and covered with bushes. (insert).



Photo by Kevin Stabinsky

MEMORIES continued from page 5



Photo by Kevin Stabinsky

Marilyn Johnson, an education technician at the Fort McPherson Child Development Center (CDC), helps cover a child with a blanket Monday.

Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) had a footprint outside the main gate, Johnson said.

Just as she saw things spring up, Johnson said she has seen things close down, such as the NCO and Officer's clubs.

The one constant, which has gotten Johnson through all the changes, was her love of children, a job made even more satisfying after the events of Sept. 11, 2001, she said. Following the attacks, she said the positive feelings and support the public showed the military made her feel better about her own contributions to helping military Families stay strong.

Those contributions have changed over her 38 years with the center, Johnson said.

"We focus more on development. We went from more of a babysitting (center) to a development center. There are more activities and opportunities for children to learn and grow today."

Johnson has been constant throughout those changes, a reassurance for Harriet Holley, the new CDC director.

Holley, who worked as a child youth program specialist at U.S. Army Forces Command Headquarters from 1989 until

1997, is a flex employee employed by the Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation Center in San Antonio. Flex employees work flexible time and hours at locations, as needed. An Atlanta native, Holley was assigned here to hold the position until closure.

"It made me smile to come back and see familiar faces who have made this a profession," said Holley.

The people who helped make it into a respectable field and have shared days with Johnson are what she is going to miss most, she said.

As for the rest of the base, thankfully its end isn't the "end," Johnson said, adding she hopes to one day come back to Fort McPherson and see what it has become.

Johnson, who has been working full time since 16, said she plans to stay in the Atlanta area and take some time off before re-entering the work force.

"I hope they put it to good use," she said of the installation, adding she hopes they don't change the buildings. "There's a lot of history in them."

And for one particular building, a lot of that history is personal.



Story and photo by Kevin Stabinsky

Col. Anthony Stratton (left), commander, Theater Support Command, Military Intelligence Readiness Command, Fort Belvoir, Va., and Navy Capt. Gene Price, Naval Intelligence Readiness Reserve Southeast commander, cut the ribbon to officially open the 8,000-square-foot addition to the Southeastern Army Reserve Intelligence Support Center (SEARISC), Bldg. 839 on Fort Gillem Jan. 20., The annex will provide the center with space for administrative support staff and training.

Yellow Ribbon — While BRAC is closing most buildings on Fort McPherson and Fort Gillem, in one instance, it has led to an expansion.

On Jan. 20, staff members at the Southeastern Army Reserve Intelligence Support Center (SEARISC), Bldg. 839, on Fort Gillem hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony to open a new annex to their building.

The 8,000-square-foot addition to the existing 20,000 square feet represents a significant change to the structure of the SEARISC, said Lt. Col. Joel Harbaugh, SEARISC commander.

"This will expand our capabilities to support joint intelligence production and training missions," he said.

The \$2.6 million investment does so by providing additional space to house DoD Civilian employees and members of all services necessary for complet-

ing the SEARISC mission, Harbaugh said.

Before the annex, the joint service center was separated, in that units were spaced apart from one another, hampering their ability to perform the mission of fusing intelligence sources from different sources and providing such intelligence to all major military commands, said Capt. Gene Price, Naval Intelligence Readiness Reserve Southeast (NIRR-SE) commander.

NIRR-SE was one such unit separated from SEARISC. Housed at Naval Air Station Atlanta, which is closing this year, the unit will now be able to work closer with SEARISC, Price said.

"Now we're really joint," Price said. "It will be an enormous benefit." Such a benefit will be felt by more than SEARISC, Price added.

"The work done here impacts the world. Now the government has made it even better," he said.

The betterment will be felt by providing neces-

sary space to house administrative support staff and room for training, Harbaugh said.

"An intelligence unit needs to have staff support. This will assist in good unit function," he added.

Having room to train servicemembers will ensure they are adequately prepared to deploy and be more efficient while deployed, Price said.

The benefit will not only pay off in terms of accomplishing the mission: in a time when budgets are at the forefront of the news, the investment will pay off monetarily, said Harbaugh.

Instead of managing multiple facilities, DoD will eventually save money by only having to operate one, Harbaugh said. It will also cut down on administrative operating costs and travel costs of moving multiple personnel to and from separate locations, he added.

"I'm confident this annex will prove to be an invaluable asset," Harbaugh said.

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73201
3X10
FULL

Courtesy photo

Grady Myrick, BRAC specialist, U.S. Army Garrison BRAC office, closes Bldg. 180, the old home of the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine-South, Jan. 26. The building joined a growing list of facilities that have closed due to BRAC.